Team has been formed to scare away birds. Besides, the Aerodrome authorities continuously interact with local municipal authorities to keep the surrounding areas free from garbage, drains and for chemical treatment of the drains.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Court of Inquiry is in progress.

Smuggling of cattle from India to Bangladesh

781. SHRI EKANATH K.THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that smuggling of cattle from India to Bangladesh which is valued approximately at Rs. 1000 cr. per annum has turned out to be a major menace for the BSF personnel manning the posts as the 1500 km. Indo-Bangladesh border is either not fenced, or is riverine where policing is very difficult;

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian cattle feeds is a Rs. 2000 cr. Industry in Bangladesh covering leather, meat supply and meat export etc; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to check this illegal trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Government is aware of smuggling of cattle to Bangladesh. The BSF deployed on the Indo-Bangladesh border has been seizing a large number of cattle while these are being smuggled to Bangladesh. The smuggled Indian cattle are a source of revenue for Bangladesh as it feeds its leather/meat industry to an extent. The following steps have been taken to check illegal trade of cattle:

(a) Special drives are undertaken on the border to check the illegal smuggling of cattle;

(b) Unfenced gaps in the border fence are being plugged with improvised fencing.

(c) Special raids are carried out in depth areas in coordination with local police and customs;

(d) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling, both day and night, operations and nakas/ambushes;

(e) Erection offence and border roads;

(f) Establishment of new BOPs; and

(g)Deployment of additional BSF Bns on Indo-Bangladesh border on being relieved CI grid in Jammu & Kashmir.

Suicides by soldiers of security forces

†782. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of committing suicides by soldiers of security forces are rapidly increasing in the wake of not sanctioning their leave etc. by their senior officials;

(b) if so, the details of such cases which have taken place during the last year;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government to prevent such incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 81 cases of suicides in Central Police Forces and 133 suicide cases in Armed forces have been reported during the year 2004.

(c) and (d) To address the common causes of suicides-duty related stress, mental depression, domestic problems, marital discord and chronic illness, as determined through various studies in the security forces-the following steps are taken:-

(i) Regulate duty hours and periodically rotate personnel from hard areas to soft areas within the constraints of operational requirements.

(ii) Regular participation of personnel in sports competitions and recreational activities.

(iii) Communication facilities for personnel in the remote areas to keep in touch with their families.

(iv) Regular interaction by officers with personnel through Sammelans, visit to forward areas etc.

(v) Introduction of stress removal techniques like Yoga and Vipasana.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.